

NEWS RELEASE

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



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Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Program Restored

NASHVILLE- The president has signed a bill continuing the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation benefits program. TEUC is 100% federally funded.

TEUC provides up to 13 weeks of additional benefits in Tennessee depending on each individual's previous state eligibility. The program previously had an expiration date of Dec. 28, 2002, which cut off new claims as well as open claims with unused TEUC. New legislation retroactively restores the TEUC program. It will continue through the end of May and provide a transition period allowing claimants who have unused TEUC at the end of May to receive their full entitlement of benefits.

"When the program expired December 28, 2002, there were about 12,000 Tennesseans who were receiving extended benefits," said Chris Betts, Administrator of Employment Security. "TEUC recipients have been allowed to continue to certify each week even though the program had expired. And with the recent passage of continuing legislation by Congress, Tennessee claimants who have continued to certify will receive payments for the weeks after December 28, by early next week." Betts went on to say, "We are also in the process of identifying those claimants who have exhausted their state unemployment benefits and who may qualify for TEUC. They will be notified by mail within the next week. There is no need for these individuals to call or go into their local Career Center or Department of Labor and Workforce Development office."

Claimants who have exhausted their TEUC eligibility will not receive another extension. Those whose eligibility was interrupted will be reinstated and allowed to receive their full TEUC benefits.

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The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.